UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/652,986	08/28/2003	Shigenori Tomonaga	16869S-092800US	2985

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2154	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/10/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _04 September 2007_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1,3-5,7-9 and 11-18_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1,3-5,7-9 and 11-18_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, and 11-18 are presented for examination. Claims

16-18 are new.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in

this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3.   Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, and 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as

being anticipated by Yanai et al. (6,502,205) (hereinafter Yanai).

4.   As per claim 1, Yanai discloses a computer-readable storage medium

having a program for use in a host computer (service processor, 234, fig 4)

having a function of displaying at a user interface a management

information items relating to a plurality of independent communication

paths (service processor, 234, fig 4, col 12, lines 61-64) for sending data

input/output requests from said host computer (service processor, 234, fig

4) to a storage device and returning results of the said data input/output

requests to said host computer , said storage device (service processor,

234, fig 4) having a plurality of disk drives (223a –223d, fig 4) storing data

sent from said host computer and a disk controller (214, fig 4) controlling to

store data sent from said host computer to at least one logical volume

corresponding to the plurality of disk drives each of said communication

paths (214, fig 4) comprising a host port of said information processing

device (elements of fig 1), a disk controller port of said disk controller, a

communication cable connecting between said host port and said disk

controller port, and a logical volume (col 15, lines 1-15) of said storage

device (user interface provides configuring and monitoring capabilities are in

service processor and host RM software, 214, 234, fig 4, col 12, lines 46-

55), said program comprising:

code configured to monitor status (user interface provides configuring and

monitoring capabilities are in service processor and host RM software, 214,

234, fig 4, col 12, lines 46-55) information for each of said communication

paths and to store said status information at said host computer (213,234,

fig 4, col 12, lines 54-67), said status information specifying a relationship

for each communication path between a path ID of said communication path

(col 8, lines 18-37), a disk controller port ID of said disk controller (col 8,

lines 18-37, 16, fig 1; SQ Link command, 24,fig 1, col 7, lines 50-67, col

47-48), and a logical volume ID of said storage device, and wherein said

status information includes an access status for each communication path

indicating whether said communication path is online or offline (col 8, lines

18-37, 16, fig 1; SQ Link command, 24,fig 1, col 7, lines 50-67, col 47-48);

code configured to operate a data processor (user interface provides

configuring and monitoring capabilities are in service processor and host RM

software, 214, 234, fig 4, col 12, lines 46-55) in the host computer to

update at least one of said management information items being displayed

to express the present access status of said communication path responsive

to a change in the status information corresponding to said communication

path, the change indicating a failure of the (col 8, lines 18-37, 16, fig 1; SQ

Link command, 24,fig 1, col 7, lines 50-67, col 47-48) communication path

(status access, col 8, lines 18-23; col 12, lines 56-67; col 13, lines 1-6),

and/or updated information received as input through said user interface

(configuring and monitoring, col 8, lines 18-23; col 12, lines 56-67; col 13,

lines 1-6);

code configured to operate the data processor (user interface

provides configuring and monitoring capabilities are in service processor

and host RM software, 214, 234, fig 4, col 12, lines 46-55) to display status

information for said plurality of communication paths including the

communication path ID of said communication path (col 8, lines 18-23; col

12, lines 56-67; col 13, lines 1-6; col 47, lines 1-6), the disk controller port

ID of said disk controller port, the logical volume ID of said logical volume of

said storage device, and the access status of said communication path

indicating off-line or on-line (col 8, lines 18-23; col 12, lines 56-67; col 13,

lines 1-6; col 47-48, see the parameters for displaying purpose); and

code configured to operate the data processor to change the displayed

management information concerned with the access status of said

communication path from said on-line state into said off-line state (col 32,

lines13-16; col 47-48) in which failure has occurred among displayed

plurality of communication paths based on status information (col 8, lines

18-23; col 12, lines 56-67; col 13, lines 1-6; col 32, lines 1-16; col 47-48,

see the parameters for displaying purpose of SQ Link command, 24,fig 1,

col 7, lines 50-67, col 47-48).

5.   As per claim 3, Yanai discloses in accordance with an input for

updating said management information items being displayed, all of said

management information items being displayed or part of said management

information items being displayed is updated to express present access

status of a communication path (status access, col 8, lines 18-23; col 12,

lines 56-67; col 13, lines 1-6).

6.   As per claim 4, Yanai discloses part of said management information

items to be updated includes at least one of an execution number of data

input/output as performed between said storage device and said host

computer and a number indicative of access failure occurred at said

communication path in proper execution of said data input/output (status

access, col 8, lines 18-23; col 47-52, messaging examples).

7.   As per claim 5, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1,

above.

8.   As per claim 7, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 5

and 3, above.

9.   As per claim 8, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 5

and 4, above.

10.   As per claim 9, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1,

above.

11.   As per claim 11, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 9

and 3, above.

12.   As per claim 12, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 9

and 4, above.

13.   As per claims 13, 14 and 15, wherein said management information

displayed at said user interface is changed in real time based on receiving

failure information from said storage device (dynamic sparing option, col 28,

lines 40-61).

16. As per claims 16, 17, and 18, Yanai discloses said host computer further

comprises a graphical user interface configured to display said management

information items (user interface provides configuring and monitoring

capabilities are in service processor and host RM software, 214, 234, fig 4,

col 12, lines 46-55), and wherein said status information is updated in

response to a selection of said management information items displayed by

said graphical user interface (user interface provides configuring and

monitoring capabilities are in service processor and host RM software, 214,

234, fig 4, col 12, lines 46-55; col 47-48).

Response to Arguments

14.   Applicant's arguments filed 09/04/2007 have been fully considered but

they are not persuasive, therefore rejections to claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, and 11 -

15 is maintained.

15.   In the remarks applicants argued that:

Argument: Yanai does not disclose a function of displaying at a user

interface a management information items relating to a plurality of

independent communication paths.

Response: Yanai discloses a function of displaying at a user interface a

management information items relating to a plurality of independent

communication paths (host RM software and service processor, 213, 234,

fig 4, col 12, lines 61-64; col 45-50, SQ link command, host RM software

and service processor are monitoring status of communication path locally)

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16.   Applicant's arguments with respect to amended limitations in claims 1,

5, and 9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of

rejection.

Conclusion

17.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection

presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE**

FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of

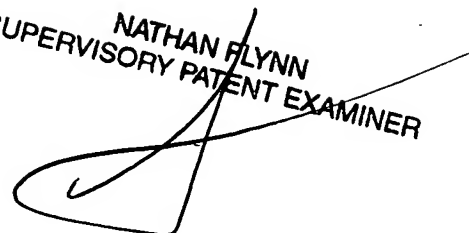time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to

expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a

first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action

and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-

MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will

expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee

pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply

expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

18.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad A. Siddiqi whose telephone number is (571) 272-3976. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Thursday.
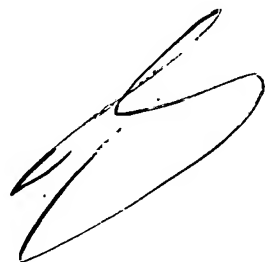
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J. Flynn can be reached on (571) 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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